

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An insulated electrical conductor with preserved functionality in case of fire, comprising:

- a metallic conductor,
- a first layer applied to said conductor, and
- a second plastic layer sheathing the first layer,

wherein the first layer is made of at least two longitudinally introduced tapes ~~(2, 3)~~ containing at least one of glass and mica, which are applied to the conductor,

wherein the width of said longitudinally introduced tapes ~~(2, 3)~~ is selected such that each of the at least two longitudinally introduced tapes ~~(2, 3)~~ overlaps itself by at least 50%, and

wherein at least one tape or thread ~~(4, 5)~~ of a high-tensile, flame resistant material is helically applied to the first layer, and

wherein, with the use of said two longitudinally introduced tapes, an overlap area of a first of said two tapes is offset by 180° in relation to an overlap area of a second tape of said two longitudinally introduced tapes.

2. (CANCELLED).

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A conductor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the longitudinally introduced tapes are made of a glass filament tape with mica particles, said mica particles being bonded to the glass filament tape with a silicon resin.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A conductor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said second layer comprises two tapes or threads ~~(4, 5)~~ with a high tensile, flame resistant material that are wound onto the first layer ~~(2, 3)~~ with an opposite direction of lay.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A conductor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the thread ~~(4, 5)~~ of high-tensile flame resistant material is a glass filament or carbon fiber thread.

6. (CANCELLED).

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A conductor as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the at least two longitudinally introduced tapes ~~(2, 3)~~ of the first layer are glass/mica strips, and the mica layer faces the conductor ~~(1)~~.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An electrical cable with preserved functionality in case of fire, characterized in that said cable comprises at least two stranded conductors as claimed in Claim 1.

Claims 9-14 (CANCELLED).

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A conductor as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least two longitudinally introduced tapes comprises only two tapes, and said two tapes overlap themselves so as to attain three layers around said conductor.

16. (NEW) An insulated electrical conductor with preserved functionality in case of fire, comprising:

a metallic conductor,

a first layer applied to said conductor, and

a second plastic layer sheathing the first layer,

wherein the first layer is made of at least two longitudinally introduced tapes containing at least one of glass and mica, which are applied to the conductor,

wherein the width of said longitudinally introduced tapes is selected such that each of the at least two longitudinally introduced tapes overlaps itself by at least 50%, and

wherein at least one tape or thread of a high-tensile, flame resistant material is helically applied to the first layer, and

wherein said at least two longitudinally introduced tapes are in direct contact with each other.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No.: 09/981,713

Our Ref.: Q64444
Art Unit: 2831

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant submits herewith replacement sheets of Figures 1, 2 and 4, which incorporate the proposed drawing corrections, which were indicated as approved in the Office Action, dated August 18, 2003.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets of drawings for Figures 1, 2 and 4.